Multiscaling in Models of Magnetohydrodynamic Turbulence

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From a direct numerical simulation of the MHD equations we show, for the first time, that velocity and magnetic-field structure functions exhibit multiscaling, extended self similarity (ESS), and generalized extended self similarity (GESS). We also propose a new shell model for homogeneous and isotropic MHD turbulence, which preserves all the invariants of ideal MHD, reduces to a well-known shell model for fluid turbulence for zero magnetic field, has no adjustable parameters apart from Reynolds numbers, and exhibits the same multiscaling, ESS, and GESS as the MHD equations. We also study dissipation-range asymptotics and the inertial- to dissipation-range crossover.

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The extension of Kolmogorov's work (K41) [1] on fluid turbulence to magnetohydrodynamic (MHD) turbulence yields [2] simple scaling for velocity v and magneticfield **b** structure functions, for distances r in the *inertial* range between the forcing scale L and the dissipation scale η_d . Many studies have shown that there are multiscaling corrections to K41 scaling in fluid turbulence [3]. Solar-wind data [4] and recent shell-model studies [5,6] for MHD turbulence yield similar multiscaling. We elucidate this for homogeneous, isotropic MHD turbulence, in the absence of a mean magnetic field, by presenting the first evidence for such multiscaling in a pseudospectral study of the MHD equations in three dimensions (henceforth 3dMHD). We also propose a new shell model with no adjustable parameters (apart from Reynolds numbers) which displays this multiscaling and reduces to the Gledzer-Ohkitani-Yamada (GOY) shell model [7,8] for 3d fluid turbulence when $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{0}$. To extract multiscaling exponents we develop the ideas of extended self similarity (ESS) [11,12] and generalised extended self similarity (GESS) [12,13] in both real and wave-vector (henceforth k) spaces, that have been used in fluid turbulence [11]-

We use the structure functions $S_p^a = \langle |a(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{r}) - a(\mathbf{x})|^p \rangle$, where a can be \mathbf{v} , \mathbf{b} , or one of the Elsässer variables $\mathbf{Z}^{\pm} = \mathbf{v} \pm \mathbf{b}$, \mathbf{x} and \mathbf{r} are spatial coordinates, and the angular brackets denote an average in the statistical steady state. $S_p^a \sim r^{\zeta_p^a}$ at high fluid and magnetic Reynolds numbers Re and Re_b , respectively, and for the inertial range $20\eta_d \lesssim r << L$. The extension [2] of K41 to homogeneous, isotropic MHD turbulence with no mean magnetic field yields $\zeta_p^a = p/3$. Shell models [5,6] and solar-wind data [4] have obtained multiscaling in MHD turbulence, i.e., $\zeta_p^a = p/3 - \delta \zeta_p^a$, with $\delta \zeta_p^a > 0$ and ζ_p^a nonlinear, monotonically increasing functions of p. Work on fluid turbulence suggests [3] an extension of the apparent inertial range if we use ESS [11] and GESS [13]: Thus with ESS, in which ζ_p^a/ζ_3^a fol-

lows from $S_p^a \sim [S_3^a]^{\zeta_p^a/\zeta_3^a}$, we should expect by analogy that it extends down to $r \simeq 5\eta_d$ (as exploited in some MHD shell models [5,6]). In GESS, which employs $\mathcal{G}_p^a(r) \equiv S_p^a(r)/[S_3^a(r)]^{p/3}$ and postulates a form $\mathcal{G}_p^a(r) \sim [\mathcal{G}_q^a(r)]^{\rho_{pq}^a}$, with $\rho_{pq}^a = [\zeta_p^a - p\zeta_3^a/3]/[\zeta_q^a - q\zeta_3^a/3]$, it has been suggested [13] for fluid turbulence that the apparent inertial range is extended to the lowest resolvable r; however, k-space GESS [12] shows a crossover from inertial- to dissipation-range asymptotic behaviors. GESS has not been used in MHD turbulence so far.

Our studies yield many interesting results: The multiscaling exponents we obtain from 3dMHD and our shell model studies agree (Figs. 1a and 1b) and $\zeta_p^b > \zeta_p^{Z^+} \gtrsim \zeta_p^{Z^-} > \zeta_p^v$. ζ_p^b lie close to the She-Leveque (SL) prediction [14] for fluids ($\zeta_p^{SL} = p/9 + 2[1 - (2/3)^{p/3}]$), but ζ_p^v lie below it (Fig. 1c) [15]. These differences between velocity and magnetic-field exponents are also mirrored in differences in the probability distribution functions (Fig. 1d) for $\delta v_\alpha(\mathbf{r}) = v_\alpha(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{r}) - v_\alpha(\mathbf{x})$ and $\delta b_\alpha(\mathbf{r}) = b_\alpha(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{r}) - b_\alpha(\mathbf{x})$. ESS works both with real-and k-space structure functions (Fig. 2). To study the latter we postulate k-space ESS (for real-space structure functions we use \mathcal{S} and \mathcal{G} and for their k-space analogs (not Fourier transforms) S and G):

$$S_p^a \equiv \langle |a(\mathbf{k})|^p \rangle \approx A_{Ip}^a (S_3)^{\zeta_p'^a}, \quad L^{-1} \ll k \lesssim 1.5 k_d,$$

$$S_p^a \equiv \langle |a(\mathbf{k})|^p \rangle \approx A_{Dp}^a (S_3)^{\alpha_p^a}, \quad 1.5 k_d \lesssim k \ll \Lambda, \tag{1}$$

where A_{Ip}^a and A_{Dp}^a are, respectively, nonuniversal amplitudes for inertial and dissipation ranges and Λ^{-1} the (molecular) length at which hydrodynamics breaks down (cf. [12] for fluid turbulence). We find that $\alpha_p^a \neq \zeta_p^{'a}$. In our shell model $\zeta_p^{'a} = \zeta_p^a$, but our data for 3dMHD suggest $\zeta_p^{'a} = 2(\zeta_p^a + 3p/2)/11$ (i.e., $S_p^a(k) \sim k^{-(\zeta_p^a + 3p/2)}$ in the inertial range [16]); the difference arises because of phase-space factors [12].

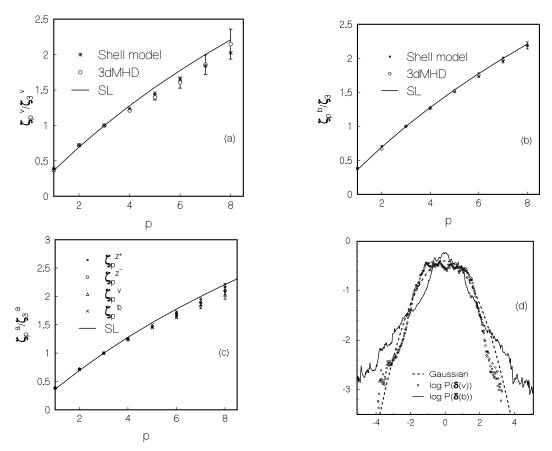


FIG. 1. (a)-(c)Inertial-range exponents versus p from typical 3dMHD and shell-model runs (Table 1) and their comparison with the SL formula: (a) ζ_p^v/ζ_3^v , (b) ζ_p^b/ζ_3^b , and (c) ζ_p^v , ζ_p^b , $\zeta_p^{z^+}$, and $\zeta_p^{z^-}$ from SH2. (d) Semilog (base 10) plots of probability distributions $P(\delta v_\alpha(r))$ and $P(\delta b_\alpha(r))$, with r in the dissipation range; a Gaussian distribution is shown for comparison.

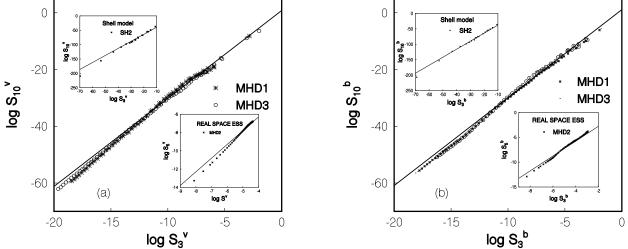


FIG. 2. Log-log plots (base 10) of S_{10}^a versus S_3^a showing k space ESS for 3dMHD with (a) a=v and (b) a=b. Insets illustrate real-space ESS for 3dMHD and ESS for our shell model; the lines show the inertial-range asymptotes.

 $\zeta_p^{'a}$ and α_p^a seem universal (the same for all our runs (Table 1)); α_p^a is close to, but $systematically\ less$ than, p/3. The k dependences of S_p^a follow from that of S_3^a . We find

$$S_3^a \approx B_I^a k^{-\zeta_3^a - 9/2}, \ L^{-1} \ll k \lesssim 1.5 k_d,$$
 (2)

$$S_3^a \approx B_D^a k^{\delta^a} \exp(-c^a k/k_d), \quad 1.5k_d \lesssim k \ll \Lambda,$$
 (3)

where B_I^a and B_D^a are nonuniversal amplitudes (Eq. (2) holds [12] for 3dMHD; for our shell model the factor 9/2 is absent). Thus all $S_p^a \sim k^{\theta_p^a} \exp(-c^a \alpha_p^a k/k_d)$ for $1.5k_d \lesssim k \ll \Lambda$, with $\theta_p^a = \alpha_p^a \delta^a$ (cf. [12] for fluid turbulence). In Eq.(3) δ^a , c^a , and k_d are not universal. However, we extract the universal part of the inertial-to dissipation-range crossover via our k-space GESS. We

first define $G_p^a \equiv S_p^a/(S_3^a)^{p/3}$; log-log plots of G_p^a versus G_q^a yield curves with universal, but different, slopes for asymptotes in inertial and dissipation ranges. The inertial-range asymptote has a slope $\rho_{p,q}^a$ (as in real-space GESS); the dissipation-range one has a slope $\omega^a(p,q) \equiv [\alpha_p^a - p/3]/[\alpha_q^a - q/3]$. These slopes are universal, but not the points at which the curves move away from the inertial-range asymptote. To obtain a universal crossover scaling function (different for each (p,q) pair because of multiscaling) we define $\log(H_{pq}^a) \equiv D_{pq}^a \log(G_p^a)$ and $\log(H_{qp}^a) \equiv D_{qp}^a \log(G_q^a)$; the scale factors $D_{pq}^a = D_{qp}^a$ are nonuniversal,

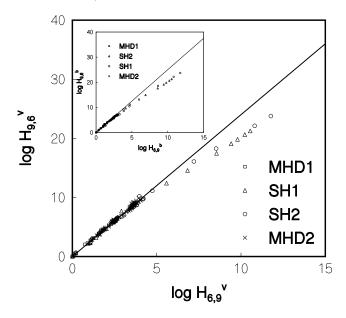


FIG. 3. Log-log plots (base 10) of $H_{9,6}^v$ versus $H_{6,9}^v$ and (inset) $H_{9,6}^b$ versus $H_{6,9}^b$, illustrate our GESS showing the universal inertial- to dissipation-range crossover; lines denote inertial-range asymptotes.

but plots of $\log(H_{pq}^a)$ versus $\log(H_{qp}^a)$ collapse onto a *universal curve* within our error bars for *all* k, Re_{λ} , and $Re_{b\lambda}$ (Fig. 3).

The MHD equations are [2]

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{Z}^{\pm}}{\partial t} + (\mathbf{Z}^{\mp}.\nabla)\mathbf{Z}^{\pm} = \nu_{+}\nabla^{2}\mathbf{Z}^{\pm} + \nu_{-}\nabla^{2}\mathbf{Z}^{\mp} - \nabla p^{*} + \mathbf{f}^{\pm},$$
(4)

where $\nu_{\pm} \equiv (\nu_v \pm \nu_b)/2$, ν_v and ν_b are, respectively, the fluid and magnetic viscosities, p^* is the effective pressure and the density $\rho = 1$, $\mathbf{f}^{\pm} \equiv (\mathbf{f} \pm \mathbf{g})/2$, and \mathbf{f} and \mathbf{g} are the forcing terms in the equations for $\partial \mathbf{v}/\partial t$ and $\partial \mathbf{b}/\partial t$. We assume incompressibility and use a pseudospectral method [12] to solve Eq.(4) numerically. We force the first two k-shells, use a cubical box with side $L_B = 2\pi$, periodic boundary conditions, and 64^3 modes in runs MHD1 and MHD2 and 80^3 modes in run MHD3 (Table 1). We include fluid and magnetic hyperviscosities (i.e., the term $-(\nu_v + \nu_{vH} k^2)k^2$ in the equa-

tion for $\partial \mathbf{v}(\mathbf{k})/\partial t$ and the term $-(\nu_b + \nu_{bH}k^2)k^2$ in the equation for $\partial \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{k})/\partial t$, where H stands for hyperviscosity). For time integration we use an Adams-Bashforth scheme (step-size δt). We use $Re_{\lambda} = v_{rms}\lambda/\nu_v$, $Re_{b\lambda} = b_{rms}\lambda/\nu_b$, $\lambda_v = [\int_o^{\infty} E_v(k)dk/\int_o^{\infty} k^2 E_v(k)dk]^{1/2}$, $\lambda_b = [\int_o^{\infty} E_b(k)dk/\int_o^{\infty} k^2 E_b(k)dk]^{1/2}$, $E_v(k) \sim S_2^v(k)k^2$ and $E_b(k) \sim S_2^b(k)k^2$. Parameters for runs MHD1-3 are given in Table 1, where $\tau_{ea} \equiv L_B/a_{rms}$ is the box-size eddy-turnover time for field a and τ_A the averaging time; initial transients are allowed to decay over a period τ_t . We use quadruple-precision arithmetic; results from our 64^3 and 80^3 runs are not significantly different.

Shell models for MHD turbulence have been proposed earlier [5,6,10], but there is no MHD shell model that enforces all ideal 3dMHD invariants and which reduces to the GOY shell model for fluid turbulence, when magnetic-field terms are supressed. We present such a model and show that it yields ζ_p^a in agreement with those we obtain for 3dMHD. Our shell-model equations

$$\frac{dz_n^{\pm}}{dt} = ic_n^{\pm} - \nu_+ k_n^2 z_n^{\pm} - \nu_- k_n^2 z_n^{\pm} + f_n^{\pm}$$
 (5)

use the *complex, scalar* Elsässer variables $z_n^{\pm} \equiv (v_n \pm b_n)$, and discrete wavevectors $k_n = k_o q^n$, for shells n;

$$c_{n}^{\pm} = \left[a_{1}k_{n}z_{n+1}^{\mp}z_{n+2}^{\pm} + a_{2}k_{n}z_{n+1}^{\pm}z_{n+2}^{\mp} + a_{3}k_{n-1}z_{n-1}^{\mp}z_{n+1}^{\pm} + a_{4}k_{n-1}z_{n-1}^{\pm}z_{n+1}^{\mp} + a_{5}k_{n-2}z_{n-1}^{\mp}z_{n-2}^{\pm} + a_{6}k_{n-2}z_{n-1}^{\mp}z_{n-2}^{\pm}\right]^{*},$$
 (6)

which ensures $z_n^+,z_n^-\sim k^{-1/3}$ is a stationary solution in the inviscid, unforced limit [5]- [8] and preserves the $\nu_+, Z^+ \leftrightarrow \nu_-, Z^-$ symmetry of 3dMHD. We fix five of the parameters, $a_1 - a_6$, by demanding that our shell-model analogs of the total energy ($\equiv \sum_{n} (|v_n|^2 + |b_n|^2)/2$), the cross helicity ($\equiv 1/2 \sum_n (v_n b_n^* + v_n^* b_n)$), and the magnetic helicity ($\equiv \sum_n (-1)^n |b_n|^2 / k_n$) be conserved if $\nu_{\pm} = 0$ and $f_n^{\pm} = 0$; while enforcing the conservation of energy, we also demand [9] that the cancellation of terms occurs as in 3dMHD. We fix the last parameter by demanding that, if $b_n = 0$ for all n, our model should reduce to the GOY model, with the standard choice of parameters [8] that conserves fluid helicity in the inviscid, unforced limit. Thus, apart from the Reynolds numbers, our shell model has no adjustable parameters and $a_1 = 7/12, a_2 =$ $5/12, a_3 = -1/12, a_4 = -5/12, a_5 = -7/12, a_6 = 1/12,$ and q = 2. We solve Eq. (5) numerically by an Adams-Bashforth scheme (step size δt), use 25 shells, force the first k-shell [12], set $k_o = 2^{-4}$, and use $E_v =$ $S_2^v(k_n)/k_n, \ \lambda_v = (2\pi/k_o)[\Sigma_n S_2^v(k_n)/\Sigma_n k_n^2 S_2^v(k_n)]^{1/2},$ $\begin{array}{lll} \lambda_b &=& (2\pi/k_o)[\Sigma_n S_2^b(k_n)/\Sigma_n k_n^2 S_2^b(k_n)]^{1/2}, & v_{rms} &=& [k_o \Sigma_n S_2^v(k_n)/\pi]^{1/2} \text{ and } b_{rms} &=& [k_o \Sigma_n S_2^b(k_n)/\pi]^{1/2}. & \text{Paper}. \end{array}$ rameters for our four runs SH1-SH4 are given in Table 1. These use double-precision arithmetic, but we have checked in representative cases that our results are not

affected if we use quadruple-precision arithmetic. As in the GOY model the structure functions $S_p(k_n)$ oscillate weakly with k_n because of an underlying three-cycle [8,9]. These oscillations can be removed either (a) by using ESS plots or (b) by using the structure functions $\sum_{n,p}^a = \langle \Im[a_n a_{n+1} a_{n+2} + a_{n-1} a_n a_{n+1}/4]^{p/3} \rangle$ [8]. Method (a) yields the exponent ratios (ζ_p^a/ζ_3^a) , which we find are universal. Method (b) gives exponents ζ_p^a . These have a mild dependence on Re_λ and $Re_{b\lambda}$ but this goes away if we consider the exponent ratios ζ_p^a/ζ_3^a , as in the GOY model [12,17]; thus the asymptotes in our ESS and GESS plots have universal slopes.

The Navier Stokes equation (3dNS) follows from 3dMHD if we set $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{0}$ or, equivalently, $Re_{b\lambda} = 0$. However, if we start with $Re_{b\lambda} \simeq 0$, the steady state is characterised by the MHD exponents and $Re_{\lambda}/Re_{b\lambda} \simeq O(1)$ (i.e., an equipartition regime) [18]. Since our MHD shell model reduces to the GOY model as $Re_{b\lambda} \to 0$, we use it to study the fluid turbulence to MHD turbulence crossover, instead of doing costly pseudospectral studies: A small initial value of $Re_{b\lambda}$ yields a transient during which we obtain GOY-model exponents, but eventually the system crosses over to the MHD turbulence steady state [9].

In conclusion, then, we have shown that structure functions in 3dMHD turbulence display multiscaling, ESS, and GESS, with exponents and probability distributions $P(\delta v_{\alpha}(\mathbf{r}))$ and $P(\delta b_{\alpha}(\mathbf{r}))$ different from those in fluid turbulence. Our new shell model (a) gives the same multiscaling exponents as 3dMHD and (b) reduces to the GOY shell model as $Re_{b\lambda} \rightarrow 0$. Our ESS and GESS studies help us to uncover an apparently universal crossover from inertial- to dissipation-range asymptotics. It would be very interesting to compare our results with experiments on MHD turbulence, but two points must be borne in mind: (1) solar-wind data might yield multiscaling exponents different from ours because of the presence of a mean magnetic field; (2) the crossover from inertialto dissipation-range asymptotics might not apply to the solar wind because a hydrodynamic description might break down in the dissipation range [19]. However, our results should apply to MHD systems which show an equipartition regime [2]. It would also be interesting to see whether the agreement of ζ_p^b with the SL formula is fortuitous or significant.

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TABLE I. The viscosities and hyperviscosities ν_v, ν_b, ν_{vH} and ν_{bH} , the Taylor-microscale Reynolds numbers Re_{λ} and $Re_{b\lambda}$, the box-size eddy-turnover times τ_{ev} and τ_{eb} , the averaging time τ_A , the time over which transients are allowed to decay τ_t , and k_d (dissipation-scale wavenumber) for our 3dMHD runs ($k_{max}=32$ for MHD1 and MHD2 and $k_{max}=40$ for MHD3) and shell-model runs SH1-4 ($k_{max}=2^{25}k_0$). The step size(δt) is 0.02 for MHD1-3, 2.10⁻⁵ for SH1-2, and 10⁻⁴ for SH3-4. Note that $\tau_{ev}\simeq 8\tau_I$ the integral time for our MHD runs.

Run	$ u_v$	$ u_{vH}$	$ u_b$	$ u_{bH}$	Re_{λ}	$Re_{m\lambda}$	$ au_{ev}/\delta t$	$ au_{ev}/\delta t$	$ au_t/ au_{ev}$	$ au_A/ au_{ev}$	k_{max}/k_d
MHD1	$8 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$7 \cdot 10^{-6}$		$8 \cdot 10^{-6}$	$\simeq 24.8$	$\simeq 14.3$	$\simeq 8.8 \cdot 10^3$	$\simeq 6 \cdot 10^3$	$\simeq 2$	$\simeq 2.3$	$\simeq 1.83$
MHD2	$8 \cdot 10^{-4}$			$9 \cdot 10^{-6}$		$\simeq 18.1$	$\simeq 8.8 \cdot 10^3$	$\simeq 5.6 \cdot 10^3$		$\simeq 2.3$	$\simeq 1.83$
MHD3	$8 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$9 \cdot 10^{-6}$	$8 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$9 \cdot 10^{-6}$	$\simeq 26$	$\simeq 19.6$	$\simeq 7.9 \cdot 10^3$	$\simeq 4.8 \cdot 10^3$	$\simeq 1$	$\simeq 2.2$	$\simeq 2.22$
SH1	10^{-9}	0	10^{-9}	0	$\simeq 4.6 \cdot 10^8$	$\simeq 7.8 \cdot 10^8$	$\simeq 10^7$	$\simeq 6 \cdot 10^6$	$\simeq 50$	$\simeq 450$	$\simeq 2^5$
SH2	10^{-8}	0	10^{-8}	0	$\simeq 4.3 \cdot 10^7$	$\simeq 6.5 \cdot 10^7$	$\simeq 10^7$	$\simeq 6 \cdot 10^6$	$\simeq 50$	$\simeq 450$	$\simeq 2^8$
SH3	10^{-6}	0	$2 \cdot 10^{-6}$	0	$\simeq 4 \cdot 10^6$	$\simeq 3 \cdot 10^6$	$\simeq 2 \cdot 10^6$	$\simeq 10^6$	$\simeq 500$	$\simeq 2500$	$\simeq 2^{10}$
SH4	$4 \cdot 10^{-6}$	0	10^{-6}	0	$\simeq 1.2 \cdot 10^5$	$\simeq 1 \cdot 10^6$	$\simeq 10^6$	$\simeq 1.7 \cdot 10^6$	$\simeq 500$	$\simeq 3000$	$\simeq 2^{11}$